

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 598 - SB 677**

February 25, 2021

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates the Tennessee Child Care Task Force (Task Force) to develop a strategic plan to address the current challenges of providing high-quality affordable child care. Establishes that the Task Force be comprised of 15 members, two of which are to be legislative members. Requires the Task Force be administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).

Requires the Task Force hire and oversee a consulting firm to assist with the development of the strategic plan and the gathering of data and information.

Requires the Task Force to submit an interim progress report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than July 1, 2022 and a final report no later than December 31, 2022, at which time the Task Force is to be terminated.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$86,500/FY21-22  
\$3,400/FY22-23**

**Assumptions:**

- The precise cost for the Task Force to contract with a third-party consultant for the purposes of this legislation is unknown. However, DHS contracted with a consultant on issues related to child care in 2019. The maximum liability for that contract was \$82,200. Based on information provided by DHS, the scope of that contract was narrower than what is required by this legislation. Therefore, the total one-time increase in state expenditures for a third-party consulting contract is estimated to exceed \$82,200 in FY21-22.
- The Task Force will consist of two legislative members, five state department commissioners, and eight non-government members, for a total of fifteen members.
- Legislative members of the Task Force are to be reimbursed as members of the General Assembly and paid for attending legislative meetings. The eight non-government members will not receive compensation for service, but will be reimbursed for any travel expenses incurred for attending meetings. The five state department commissioners will attend Task Force meetings in the course of their regular business.

- The Task Force will meet at least monthly. Meetings may be held virtually. It is assumed that most meetings will be held virtually and that the Task Force will meet in person once per quarter.
- The General Assembly will be in session at the time of one quarterly Task Force meeting in FY21-22; therefore, it is assumed the two legislative members will attend that meeting in the course of regular business.
- It is assumed that two legislative members will attend two additional in-person meetings in FY21-22, and two in-person meetings in FY22-23.
- It is assumed all eight non-government members will attend three in-person meetings in FY21-22, and two in-person meetings in FY22-23.
- Legislative members will receive a per diem of \$295 for each in-person Task Force meeting. Ten members will receive \$0.47 per mile roundtrip. The average miles travelled per member is estimated to be 234 miles roundtrip.
- The average mileage reimbursement per member for each meeting is estimated to be \$110 (\$0.47 x 234 miles).
- The cost per legislative member for each meeting is estimated to be \$405 (\$295 per diem + \$110 mileage).
- The total cost for legislative members to attend meetings is estimated to be \$1,620 (2 members x \$405 x 2 meetings) in each FY21-22 and FY22-23.
- The total cost for non-legislative members to attend meetings is estimated to be \$2,640 (8 members x \$110 x 3 meetings) in FY21-22 and \$1,760 (8 members x \$110 x 2 meetings) in FY22-23.
- The total increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$86,460 (\$82,200 + \$1,620 + \$2,640) in FY21-22.
- The total increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$3,380 (\$1,620 + \$1,760) in FY22-23.
- Based on information provided by DHS, the Department anticipates expending the entire Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) award amount for FY21-22 on current and planned initiatives. As a result, it is expected that no CCDF funds will be available for the purposes of this legislation.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

/jj